

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Posta Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 25, 2002.

Applicants: Erik H.F. Wong et al. Serial No.: 09/599,213 Filed: June 22, 2000 Title: METHOD OF TREATING OR PREVENTING CHRONIC PAIN WITH A HIGHLY **SELECTIVE** NOREPINEPHRINE REUPTAKE INHIBITOR (As Amended) Group Art Unit: 1614 Examiner: William R.A. Jarvis Sandip H. Patel (Reg. No. 43,848) Attorney Docket No.: 6248.4 Attorney for Applicants

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants by their attorney, petition for a three-month extension of time to file a response to the October 10, 2001, official action in the above-identified application.

Submitted herewith is our check in the amount of \$920.00 to cover the patent application processing fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2). Any additional required fee may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855. Any overpayment should be refunded to the undersigned attorney's law firm at the address indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN

March 25, 2002

By

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